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Effingham Budget Committee Minutes
68 School Street, Effingham
February 08, 2022

Members Present: Dave Strauss (chair), Leo Racine (Vice Chair), David Garceau, Jim Giguere, Jay Krysa, Lenny Espie (Selectman's Representative).

Members Absent: Theresa Swanick.

Others Present: Audrey Frazier (Town Administrator), Chuck Fuller (Selectman), Susan Slack (moderator), and members of the public; Erik Jones, Grace Fuller, Vicki Kirkwood, Lawrence Edwards, Linda Edwards, John Davis, Ruth O'Neal, Gordon Romanovic, Vicky Garceau and Rosemarie Wissenbach.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm. A roll call confirmed those present.

Minutes

Dave Strauss made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for February 1, 2022 as written. The motion was seconded by Leo Racine. Lenny Espie stated on page two, the first paragraph he is listed wrongly, it should be Leo Racine. Pen to ink correction made, amended.

Motion Vote, as amended: Lenny Espie-aye, Jay Krysa-aye, Leo Racine-aye, Chair Strauss-aye, Dave Garceau-aye, Jim Giguere-aye (passed 6-0)

Board Business

Chair Strauss asked if everyone had their packets ready for the public meeting, he stated today they received a Fire & Rescue Department report for the month of January, it is detailed 63% of their calls are done by the day shift as opposed to the on call personnel. Chair Strauss stated the new MS-737 draft is distributed and circled in the appropriate areas, the adjustment are due to the \$150,000.00 carryover funds not being included, these are the numbers we want to look for when we sign the 737, page 5 is our operating budget, page 7 is the total of the special warrant articles and the addition that you haven't seen is what I sent in an e-mail, page 8, which was moved the retirement system benefit to an individual warrant article, based on DRA. All of this adds up to sheet 12 which is circled, these are the numbers we want to verify when you sign the sheet. We will end up making an appointment with Audrey when we finalize the budget.

Chair called the Budget Public Hearing to order at 5:15pm.

Chair Strauss stated the Budget Committee met 12 times for a total of approximately more than 40 hours per member, not including the countless hours of preparation and time spent. A committee member attended all BoS budget work sessions to provide guidance and assistance with the Governor Wentworth Regional School District enrollment policy, which is ongoing right now. All Budget Sheets and Warrant articles reviewed at the Public Hearing and provided to the public in January and February

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are available in the office and on the Town website. The budget before you will increase the Town portion by approximately 50 cents per thousand.

Chair Strauss stated you will hear numerous times in this Hearing “unassigned fund balance usage,” total unassigned fund balance usage in this budget is \$633,500.00, with the many additions requested by the Select Board (BoS), we are extremely lucky to receive an unexpected high number of payments of delinquent property taxes for the year 2019 and 2020. The Budget Committee set up a process to ensure we understood what our town had for the unassigned fund balance after the requested usage, our projections right now, after using that 633,500, we will end up with an unassigned fund balance of approximately \$633,000 to 635,000 at the end of the year.

Bailey Road has to be done, we don’t have a choice, it is a one way in and out for those residents and that bridge is failing, it is a major cost of approximately \$450,000.00 for the town, so we had to be creative as far as how we can use some of those funds. We used the unassigned fund balance, unspent operating budget and known offsets to reduce the BoS initial request of over \$260,000 to get us down to a little over \$103,000.00 increase. We worked hard to try and bring that to a reasonable budget that we feel is in the best interest of the town in order to maintain our infrastructure and our personnel, which is what you see before you.

BUDGET SHEET REVIEW:

(4130) Executive Budget at \$162,500. Ruth O’Neal asked what was actually spent. Town Administrator Audrey Frazier stated the amount was \$158, 898.00.

(4140) Town Clerk Budget at \$42,503.00. There were no questions.

(4141) Supervisors of the Checklist Budget at \$2,830.00. There were no questions.

(4150) Tax Collector Budget at \$42,338.00 Linda Edwards asked if the Tax Collector and Town Clerk telephone are the same and why zero budgeted for both? Chair stated that we are in a contract for telephone so now telephone charges are under 4130, except for Police, Fire Department and the Transfer Station.

(4150) Auditing Budget at \$11,400.00. There were no questions.

(4150) Treasurer Budget at \$4,315.00. Ruth O’Neal said the salary of the treasurer is a 111% increase; do you have an explanation of why it has gone up? Chair Strauss stated the additional work required by the treasurer was brought in by the BoS, detailing what is needed for the treasurer; items that hadn’t been being done that are being done now. Vicky Kirkwood stated in 2020 it was \$1700.00, to \$2700.00 when we got the new person in, now we are going to 73.3%, I

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believe the Deputy Treasurer is a new position. Chair Strauss stated no, it has always been and is required. The Deputy Treasurer duties are to basically back up the Treasurer, when they can't do the manifest/checks and also assist with compiling data needed as far as reports done monthly, annually and detailed, income and expenditures, it is a backup that is required by the RSA.

The budget committee felt because of the amount of hours that was being used an increase was warranted, we tried to be prudent with increases, because we all understood in the beginning, starting the budget process, we had gotten hit with a \$1.52 increase last year, we couldn't afford the \$260,000.00 plus that was presented to us, we didn't know what the school was going to do but logic told us it would increase. The Committee understood that a certain level of increase from the town was required to maintain the town and still do the infrastructure that is why we used all of the different methods to bring that amount down to a reasonable increase.

Lawrence Edwards asked if the treasurer is doing 125% more now than the previous Treasurer. Chair Strauss stated no, he would say that we did not look at percentage of increase, we looked at the value of what they were doing, we didn't look at it as a percentage if she made 100 dollars and now she's getting 150, we looked at the amount of hours that is required to do that job and stipends that was needed to be comparable to what was being done for that job.

Lawrence Edwards asked if the previous Treasurer wasn't doing it right or doing as much as she was supposed to be doing? Selectman Fuller stated, what the BoS found out once we ended up with a new Treasurer, there were a lot of processes and procedures that should have been done, like bank reconciliation that weren't being done. The current Treasurer averages 4 to 6 hours a week, 52 weeks a year, to be able to do the job and make sure the proper reporting is in place, we are not compensating anywhere near the value that is there for work being done, it was less than what should be and that's why originally that we wanted of \$5500.00 because that would be reflective of the amount of work at a reasonable hourly rate for a treasurer in this town, the budget committee chose not to do that.

Chair Strauss stated we were brought into it with a better understanding with what it takes to do that job and it is a lot more than what we realized when we first started budgeting the Treasurer, so I can't say that we were budgeting the stipend at a reasonable amount, but more information was brought to us on what that job entails and we agreed that because of all of that information that we had not known about, that a stipend increase was warranted. Leo Racine stated we requested that information when we saw the raise, and came back with that price, and started asking questions, what is she doing?

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Vicki Kirkwood asked if the budget committee thought that \$3690 was a more accurate figure is that what you are saying? Chair Strauss said it was a more reasonable figure than what was previously submitted. Vicky Garceau asked since she is doing so much more, can we boost it up to the \$4000.00. Chair Strauss said you can here, or you can on the town floor, the budget committee has already voted to \$3690.00, everything is available to everyone on the town floor.

(4151) Budget Committee Budget at \$1394.00. There were no questions.

(4152) Assessing Budget at \$38,400.00. There were no questions.

(4153) Legal Budget at \$40,000.00. Linda Edwards asked if previously it was \$30,000.00? is our attorney getting more money? Chair Strauss said no, we are running over budget and with the amounts that we have budgeted due to cases sitting in the Court system and it was brought up to us what we needed to fund it. The BoS sat down with us and went through what was needed for the current funding. I can tell you that the Budget Committee did review all of the invoices on last year's charges in the invoice folder in the office and that was me personally, I didn't see anything that stood out that was out of line such as a charge that shouldn't have been in that folder, it was all correctly charged, you can say whatever you want for each individual item that was charged, it was a correct charge. Lenny Espie stated the hourly rate went up. Chair Fuller stated the paralegal rate went from \$10 to \$15 @ hour.

(4155) Payroll Expenses Budget at \$92, 000.00, Vicky Kirkwood asked who is on this? Chair Strauss stated a full time Sargent and a patrol officer. Linda Edwards asked how many hours is the patrol officer? Chair Strauss said he is full time, The previous Chief's budget is not that much of a difference than what it is now, when we go back to two full time people, the difference when the previous Chief went down and lost a person, we didn't have to pay retirement benefits, we only had one, Tim couldn't get any part timers, so we didn't have to charge any part timers, we ended up getting money back and that fluctuated for two years back and forth.

Leo Racine stated part time firemen are also covered. Chair Strauss stated the reason the FICA went up is we didn't realize the part time fire going to a full year was such a high cost increase to FICA. The FICA is also town employees such as transfer station and the town office.

Ruth O'Neal asked is the \$47,000 for two police officers or three? Chair Strauss stated two are full time, the police chief is a part time person, retired and he doesn't receive benefits from us.

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(4191) Historic District Commission (HDC) Budget at \$485.00. There were no questions.

(4191) Planning Board Budget at \$5,961. There were no questions.

(4191) Zoning Board Budget at \$3,162.00. There were no questions.

(4191) Zoning Officer Budget at \$24,478.00. Lawrence Edwards asked the salary for the Assistant Field Inspector, it is not a salary it is by the hour, right? BoS Chair stated it is a by the hour salary.

Lawrence asked if this is an advertised position or an appointed position. BoS Chair Chuck Fuller states he doesn't know why we couldn't advertise it and added the assessor is actually helping the Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) right now; the issue is the amount of permits coming in, the follow up that is being required and the different actions that are going on and requiring follow up. Rebecca basically spends her hours doing a lot of that and working on legal stuff, we are not getting anybody driving around town inspecting, looking at violations and other things, just following up on permits to make sure someone put in a septic system they said they were going to with a building permit.

Linda Edwards asked is Rebecca going to be in on the interview process BoS Chair Fuller stated yes.

(4194) Municipal Buildings Budget at \$73,000. Vicky Kirkwood asked who is the salary line item for? Chair Strauss said they are maintenance. Audrey Frazier states we have a maintenance person who comes in and does these two buildings two to three hours a week, he vacuums, cleans, washes floors, things like that, also someone who shovels the walkways, steps.

(4195) Cemeteries Budget at \$2,000. Linda Edwards asked this is Woodland Cemetery? Chair Strauss said yes, Woodland.

(4196) Insurance Budget at \$81,902.00. The offset is the employee contribution that is why you see a difference. Ruth O'Neal asked if this was for three people who are getting health insurance? Chair Strauss answered, yes.

(4197) Advertising & Dues Budget at \$3,000. The BoS uses this to advertise our meetings, their meetings, hearings, as such. Erik Jones asked if that included LRPC meetings or is that under one of the boards? Chair Strauss answered that would be under the planning board.

(4210) Police Budget at \$234,367.00. Chair Strauss stated for those who don't know we have been doing a canine report monthly, we have the info on the website under the budget committee, We have been keeping track of what the canine certifications were, what they were using the canine for, the costs and I'll speak for the Committee we felt with all of those reports

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that we are getting a good bang for our buck for the small amount that we are spending on the canine.

Linda Edwards asked, can you explain the police detail, line item? Chair Strauss said that is if they work for another department we get reimbursed back the money. Linda Edwards asked is that if they go for a job in Wakefield to work? Jay Krysa stated Wakefield pays us. Jim Giguere stated these are like the road construction jobs where they want to have a police officer there, typically the way it works, the town has got to pay up front for the officer and then the company pays the town. Chair Strauss stated that would go into our general fund.

Ruth O'Neal asked if they are on duty full time and if the canine works full time. Chair Strauss stated the canine is full time with the sergeant and he goes home with Shawn, stays with Shawn, he trains 24/7 with that dog.

Vicky Kirkwood asked about police overtime, can you explain that? Chair Strauss said, we allow for overtime, we have always had it in the part time salaries, we pulled it out this year, out of the part time salaries at the chief's request, so we could track it better, if the sergeant gets called out with the dog, he gets overtime if he is beyond his hours, the same with the patrol officer.

Linda Edwards asked if he is not salary? Chair Strauss stated, it is state law, if they work over 40 hours, we have to pay them time and a half. Vicky asked, the chief too? Chair Strauss stated no, he is capped as far as his salary because he is receiving a state retirement. Jim Giguere added our Chief of police can only work so many hours as a police officer, or will impact his retirement from the state. BoS chair Fuller stated 1300 hours a year, which is 26 hours a week.

Linda Edwards asked now the telephone is charged? Chair Strauss stated this is what we said in regards to the fire and police have separate phones, it also includes their cell phones. Linda Edwards asked what is the phone company? BoS Chair stated the cell phones that we have and the cell coverage for the laptops in the cruisers is Verizon, coverage across town Verizon has the best coverage at this time. Linda Edwards asked if this is new that we pay for their cell phones. Chair Strauss states no, we have always paid.

(4220) EMS Contract Budget at \$120,000.00. BoS Chair states two years ago we did a contract with Green Mountain Treatment Center, so they basically reimburse us for any of the calls that go up to that facility, last year was about 15% of the total call volume, around \$15,000. Chair Strauss states that will go right back into our general fund.

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(4220) Fire & Rescue Budget at \$147,400.00, Chair detailed that the big increase here is part timers going full year, 100 hours a week. We do have a new Fire Chief that was selected by the BoS; you will be seeing him soon.

Vicky Kirkwood asked, do you know how many members are on the fire department now? I have been hearing that people have been leaving. BoS Chair Fuller stated there were eleven and he believes since last weekend we have lost one.

Vicky Kirkwood asked about member pay? Chair Strauss said that is a compensation that they have for going to fires, training, attending training, an hourly rate for coming in for training. Vicky asked if it was like a stipend? Chair Strauss said it is a stipend, it is pro-rated as to whether they are fireman one or assistant fire chief, Randy has a system and he has gone through it with us, a grading system as how he pays each one.

Vicky asked why the total cost was reduced? Chair Strauss stated because of the part time fire fighters full time coverage is picking up the daytime calls, so we don't need people in that part time line to come out during the days to go to a fire.

(4290) Emergency Mgmt Budget at \$1,990. Chair detailed we have 3 generators, we now have a trust fund that we are putting money into, because they are so costly to replace. We are hoping that we get enough in it, so one goes we don't have a large hit to the budget, you'll see that when it comes to the trust funds on the warrant articles.

(4290) Forest Fire Warden Budget at \$2,500. There were no questions.

(4312) Highways & Streets Budget at \$528,750.00. Chair Strauss states the top line item is road construction that is your warrant article, Green Mountain Road. Lawrence Edwards asked if there was mowing done this year. BoS Chair Fuller said no. Lenny Espie said we had someone, but he couldn't get his tractor going. Vicky Kirkwood said what happens to the funds that were for that. Chair Strauss said anything that is leftover goes back into the general fund, like this year when we have an excess on the 2021 budget of \$93,000.00 that rolls over into general fund. We use that for the unassigned fund balance.

(4313) Bridges Budget at \$1,000. Chair Strauss stated this is washing the bridges and minor repairs on the guardrails, bridge maintenance. Linda Edwards asked if the fire trucks do those? BoS Chair Fuller said the road contractor had bought a tanker and is doing our bridges for us.

(4316) Street Lighting Budget at \$4,500. Chair Strauss states we are down from 25 to 13; Tom Hart worked hard on that to get the reduction.

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(4323) Solid Waste Collection Budget at \$95,620. Linda Edwards asked what does this entail? Lenny Espie said that is the transfer station, this is the salaries, telephones, repair and maintenance. Vicky Kirkwood asked if there were 3 people working there? Chair Strauss and Lenny Espie stated 4 people. Vicky asked if they were there 3 days a week, Chuck Fuller stated one is 2 days a week.

(4324) Solid Waste Disposal Budget at \$76,990. BoS put out today, glass and metal disposed was about 83 tons. BoS Chair Fuller stated the importance of recycling the bottles as we pay \$36/ton to get rid of it, the other stuff at the transfer station we pay \$64/ton. Had we not separated the glass starting two years ago, our rate for everything was going to be \$92 a ton. Recycling the tin cans is over a ton of aluminum out of our transfer costs.

(4325) Solid Waste Cleanup Budget at \$10,000. Chair Strauss states this is the wells around the transfer station for PFAs testing, I am sure you remember we tested all of the wells because of the PFAS. Linda Edwards asked if this was yearly. Chair Strauss answered, yes.

(4411) Heath Administration: \$4,500.00, Vicky Kirkwood asked if this is a stipend, a salary or an hourly rate? Chair Strauss answered it is a stipend. Vicky asked if this is approved do we have to continue each year to do a raise on it. Chair Strauss said no, we never have to continue, it is all negotiated at the budget session, the raises we negotiate with the BoS ahead of time., Ruth O'Neal asked to explain the need for two positions as we have never had them before? Chair Strauss said we have always had a health officer, it was always the selectman. BoS chair Fuller said we have had a health ordinance from 2002 and what he has have been able to research it was actively managed for about a decade. For the last decade we have not done a good job in managing the ordinance and the state put in new requirements for towns, relative to health officer training. As a result of starting to enforce the ordinance that is on their books, we have a lot of septic systems that don't exist, and we have people that have put in new houses where they have never installed a septic system properly, we need to basically address that issue and that is all part of this additional request. Lenny Espie said there is a little bit more the state put on us, but it's not just the health officer and the deputy, it's the BoS acts as the health board, so Chuck himself and whoever else comes on will be part of it, the health administration, I don't know how much time it's going to take, it is going to be a learning process.

Linda Edwards said how much time do you think this is going to take and what kind of requirements did the state put on the board? BoS chair Fuller said the training requirement, reporting requirement, we are supposed to have those policies and procedures, we don't have any that is part of the BoS being the health board by law, we have got to actually sit down with the health officer to come up with written policies and procedures for the whole department.

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Discussion continued on State verification of installed systems and towns permit process, design approval, not an installation approval, two different things, they are getting a design approval and operation approval.

(4414) Dog Officer Budget at \$6,700. Linda Edwards asked who is it? BoS Chair Fuller stated we are trying to find someone the dog officer we had quit because we were so far underpaying her, she is the dog officer in 3 surrounding towns and has been for years and the compensation we offered was not even close. Chair Strauss states we hope this amount will be comparable to what she is getting for some of the other towns she is providing her services for. Linda Edwards asks if we really have a problem, stating she rides through town quite a bit and I don't see many dogs around. Chair Strauss said we are averaging at least nine dogs according to the SPCA. Leo Racine asked is it just dogs or other animals that were taken. BoS chair Fuller states it is being reconfigured to animal control. John Davis states he can speak to daily that dogs don't go to the SPCA like they should.

(4415) Health Agencies Budget at \$22,530, The Chair detailed that we end up getting a package of about 35 to 40 sheets for applications from these non-profits, we spend a significant amount of time reviewing all of these non-profits, we have detailed sheets to see which ones overlap, their revenue, their salaries and their overhead. We also developed a rating system for each individual non-profit from low to high. We try to fund no more than one percent of our total operating budget that is our goal.

Chair Strauss stated we have six criteria that we use for the rating system. Vicki Kirkwood asked what is the Ossipee Children's fund? Chair Strauss answered that it provides after hour school programs for us and surrounding programs. This is the non-profit that does that, as well as Children Unlimited. Vicky asked if it is at the Ossipee School. Chair Strauss stated, we bring them to Ossipee.

Linda Evans asked if we could explain Starting Point? Chair Strauss said Starting Point is domestic abuse which is a major driver for our police department, they use that the most and that is one of the things the police came in and have given the Committee advice on.

Ruth O'Neal asked why the reduction in funding for the addiction center, it was \$3000.00 and now it is \$1,000.00. Chair Strauss stated last year they had a request of \$3000.000 and we actually only provided them with \$500.00 and this year we are funding them at \$1,000, Jim Giguere stated this is also an area where there are redundant services like Northern Human Services does it, White Mountain Community Health has a component of it too. .

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(4442) General Assistance Budget at \$12,000; History has shown this is a good number for the town. Ruth O'Neal asked what was spent in 2021? Chair Strauss said we have spent right around \$2000.00.

(4442.2) Meals on Wheels Budget at \$4,000. Linda Edwards asked how many volunteers bring these meals. Chair Strauss replied I don't have that number. They are looking for drivers. Linda asked if we pay for their gas? Chair Strauss said we donate the money only.

(4520) Parks & Recreation Budget at \$10,000. The public voiced concerns of not fully funding at \$30,000.

Chair Strauss outlined the following Facts:

- Multiple contacts between the Committee/BoS and Ossipee Rec.
- Cost will increase yearly if child count increases AND operation cost increase.
- 57 of our kids use the rec department for 183 different programs (1/5?).
- Approximately \$200 dollars per child at the \$10,000 2021 rate.
- Approximately \$600 dollars per child at the \$30,000 2022 requested rate.
- Most programs still require an additional fee above and beyond and the town cost.
- Ossipee Town Administrator in a letter stated our true cost should be \$60,000.
- Noted GWRSD has after school programs.
- Noted our Library provides after school programs.
- Noted 2 town funded non-profits provide after school programs.
- Current tax rate of \$22.49/k GWRSD takes \$12.93/k and \$1/k other **67% of our current tax rate supports children.**

It was debated is it fair to the citizens who are coming in to our Town office that can't even make their tax payments and can't get the elderly exemption because they are just above the poverty level but we going to funding high income family's for after school programs?

Additionally it was noted why should we be giving \$1200 to a 2 child family that is making \$300,000? We went to the BoS and want them to look into an alternative. Is the cost sharing available? Why should the Town be paying \$1200 for a 2 child family that is making \$300,000? That is a waste of taxpayer's money.

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(4550) Library Budget at \$64,285. There were no questions.

(4583) Patriotic Purposes Budget at \$700. Detailed this is for our flags on our graves, every year. Grace Fuller asked if it was for the flags on the flagpole as the fire department has a really ragged state flag. Chair Strauss said Randy has a supply budget; he would buy a flag from his supply budget.

(4611) Conservation Commission Budget at \$3,805. Chair noted the reduction seen in this budget was because Province Lake host program was placed on a separate budget sheet as requested by the Conservation Commission.

(4619) Town Forrester Budget at \$1,000. There were no questions.

(4619.1) Other Conservation Budget at \$3,000, this is new and what we took off from the Conservation Commission, for the PLA Lake Host programs, they check all of the boats. Ruth O'Neal asked who is supervising this. Chair Strauss stated Province Lake Association that is what PLA stands for, they control all of this, getting the people to sit in their lawn chair with their umbrella and walk around your boat.

(4711) Debt Service Budget at \$1.00. There were no questions.

(4723) TAN Interest Budget at \$1.00. There were no questions.

Chair detailed that all budget items covered to this point are the operating budget total which is the warrant in the published package totaling \$1,987,307. Chair Strauss stated the overall budget is about a 50 cent increase.

All warrants were discussed and fully read; the public had no questions on the following:

4915 Fire Truck and Equipment CRF: \$20,00.00, 4915 Fire Truck and Equipment CRF: \$2,000.00, 4915 Police Cruiser and Equipment CRF: \$15,000.00, 4915 Transfer Station/Recycling Center CRF: \$2,000.00, 4916 Bridge Maintenance ETF: \$2,000.00, 4916 Municipal Buildings ETF: \$10,000.00, 4916 Computer Network ETF: \$2,000.00, 4916 Police Safety Gear ETF: \$2,000.00, 4916 Town Hall Repair and Rehabilitation ETF: \$60,000.00, 4916 Fire Department Equipment ETF: \$2,000.00, 4916 Planning and Land Use C.I.P. ETF: \$1,000.00, 4916 Invasive Aquatic Plant Non ETF: \$2,500.00, 4916 Voting Machine ETF: \$2,500.00, 4916 Emergency Management Generator Replacement ETF: \$2,500.00, 4901 Bailey Road Bridge: \$450,000.00.

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The public had questions on the following warrants in the published package.

4901 Other Warrants:

Group 1 NH Retirement System: \$7,600.00.

Susan Slack asked why is this a warrant article as retirement benefits were provided in another warrant article.. Chair Strauss stated it is Group 1 which is non-fire/police and the previous warrant was for Fire/Police (Group 2).

Fire Chief: \$8,600.00,

Ruth O'Neal asked if these two daytime shifts replace two of those part time shifts? Chair Strauss said part of the agreement with the new fire chief is that he will be working two of the shifts a week, so he's going to be using that salary line item for two shifts a week.

Erik Jones asked is the \$25,000.00 an annual salary or a nine month salary? Chair Strauss said annual. Erik asked why are we approving an annual amount for a nine month period? It was debated if this number should be adjusted to a nine month number vice a 12 month number. It was determined by the Committee and the BoS that the amount was less than \$1000 and not to adjust the warrant to reflect his. Left overfunds would roll into the fund balance.

Vicky Kirkwood asked, if he had been hired and he is working as a part time. BoS chair Fuller said he is doing day shifts starting next week; he'll be working a couple of day shifts, working with Randy on transition. Starting April 1, if town approved he will be working 20 hours a week (day shift) and 4 hours will be management/administration.

Green Mountain Road 2.4 miles: \$500,000.00 (\$650,00.00 total, \$150k carried over from 2021) Vicky Kirkwood said we have \$650,000.00 and you said today R&D paving was charging \$487,540.00? BoS chair Fuller said the bid spec also specifies that our road contractor will provide the additional fill that needs to be built up on the road and buildup on the completed sides of the paving.

Rescind Professional Contracted Services Expendable Trust Fund: approximately \$83.85 and accumulated interest transferred to municipal general fund. Public asked what the fund was originally setup for. This was originally set up for having a grant writer for the library.

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Rescind Salt Shed Capital Reserve Fund: approximately \$6,149.07 with accumulated interest, leftover from the salt shed. Erik Jones asked when we built the salt shed? Leo said when Theresa was selectman. Erik asked what the lifespan was when it was built? Chair Strauss said he was told 50 years.. We had looked at capital improvement committee to do buildings before we actually start funding something again and expect this to be in municipal buildings ETF.

Rescind Woodland Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund: approximately \$10,392.31 with accumulated interest. Linda Edwards asked for an explanation. Lenny Espie said in 2003 this replaced the Woodland Cemetery fund, they created this one and rolled the \$9,000.00 into it, for what we, don't know. We have still probably 200 to 300 lots we have to sell, I don't ever envision us needing the money. The \$2000.00 we put in it every year in the operating budget more than covers the maintenance.

There was a time I remember Geneva got a petition to take the money from all of the lots sold there, take it out of the general fund and put it in the trust fund, no one seems to know what it's for and we don't need it. Lawrence Edwards asked if it was going to be rolled over into a maintenance fund? Chair Strauss stated it goes to the general fund.

Erik Jones asked, the trustees of the trust fund said nothing on what the original purpose of the fund was? Do any of the lots in there come with perpetual care? Selectman Espie said they all do.

The Chair noted at this point in the review including the operating budget the total amount approved by the budget committee is \$2,295,507.

He informed the public the Committee will be doing additional work on the budget state forms and they were welcome to stay if desired but no additional public input would be taken.

Chair asked the Public if there were any further questions. Hearing none he called the Public Hearing to a close at 7:37pm.

Approved: _____
Approved with changes: _____
Unapproved: _____

Effingham Budget Committee Minutes
68 School Street, Effingham
February 08, 2022

Other Budget Committee Business

Chair Strauss asked if there were any adjustments. Leo Racine stated, no, we just need to review the draft. Audrey finalized the MS-737 and presented it to the Committee for signature.

Chair Strauss said please review you're marked up copy of the MS-737 and if you are good sign the cover sheet for the master Audrey has presented. All members reviewed and signed the MS-737. Audrey will email the Chair/Vice Chair a copy of the signed MS-737.

Chair Strauss said for the town meeting, everyone please bring the detail sheet with the comments. Chair Strauss said if someone asks a question on one of the budgets anyone of us can answer it and use the detail sheet for reference.

Chair Strauss said the next meeting is April 5th or April 12th at 6, to start the whole process all over again. It was agreed to meet April 5 at 6pm, Chair thanked all for their hard work this year.

Next Budget Meeting

04/05/2022 @ 6pm

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by David Strauss. The motion was seconded by Jim Giguere.

Motion Vote: Chair Strauss asked all in favor adjournment , , Leo Racine- aye, Jay Krysa-aye, Lenny Espie-aye, Jim Giguere-aye, Dave Garceau-aye, Dave Strauss-aye (passed 6-0).